

The Barnabas Letter

This month, we embark, once again, on the long journey from Pentecost to Advent. The Sundays after Trinity are called, by our Roman brethren, ordinary time. But, my brethren, nothing about our life in Christ is or should be ordinary! We are called "Christians" for a very good reason. The word Christian means, literally; "Little Christ's" we are to be conformed to our Savior in such a way that the light of our faith is, truly, the light of the love of God in Christ Jesus beckoning to those who are outside this household of faith to join us on this joyful road that leads us to our Gods peaceable kingdom. Therefore, we, who are Christians, must behave in certain ways so that those around us will know that we do indeed, follow the Lord Jesus Christ. We must be of a kindly disposition and humble of heart. By this I mean that, because of Christ, we are to seek to always do good things for and to our neighbors. Furthermore, we are not to go about exalting ourselves because of the charitable deeds that we have done. We are servants of the Almighty and as such we are nothing more than His instruments, used to further the cause of His kingdom of peace. In order to accomplish this goal we must be faithful servants and in order to remain faithful to our calling we must live out what our Lord has called and commanded us to do. For instance: we must be faithful in our attendance at worship. This idea that we do not need to go to our churches, except when we feel like it, is a very bad idea. Our God commands us to attend worship in the Ten Commandments, "Remember the Sabbath Day, to keep it holy" is still very much in force. We must be always in prayer

because trying to do any of this by our own strength will doom us to failure from the start. We must read our Bibles to the extent that we are living in Holy Scripture in order to truly hear from our Lord and to follow His commands in full and joyful obedience. Yes, this is a very tall order, but we need not fear because we are filled with the Holy Spirit and He will enable us to do all that our loving Lord has called and commanded us to do. Until next month, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen

Your brother in Christ;

Pastor A.W.